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— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations: AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SI, SK, TR, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: INFORMATION ROUTING

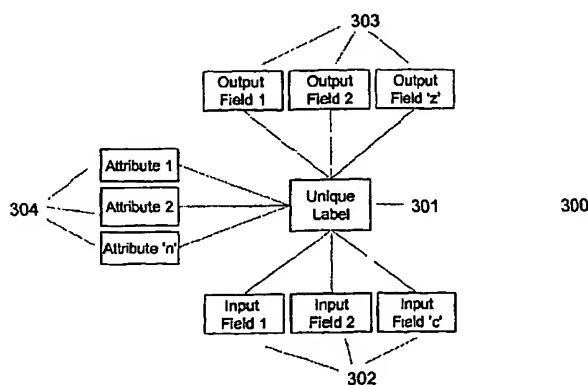


Diagram of Example Function

(57) Abstract: The invention provides an improved method and apparatus for information routing and sharing in multiple computer networks, which can facilitate automatic integration of diverse network and data systems. In an integrated data network comprising multiple computer systems, distinct information users and sources are treated as "Blocks" (1). An Information Routing Layer (3) coupled to the Blocks provides for the routing of information stored in the form of Datasets, which are sets of field names, types, values and other components, from one Block (1) to another by a process of "Information Routing", such that an Aggregate Route can be constructed as required to meet a request from a Block in the integrated data network without programmatic or specified workflow reference to other Blocks using one or more available Datasets and novel Functions to supply and process information as required.

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IPC 7 H04L29/06 H04L12/56

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, IBM-TDB, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 216 173 B1 (JONES ADRIAN ET AL) 10 April 2001 (2001-04-10) column 1, line 6 - line 61 column 6, line 20 - line 66 column 9, line 13 -column 10, line 56 column 11, line 34 -column 12, line 61 column 13, line 9 -column 14, line 34 column 29, line 54 -column 30, line 63	1-17
X,P	EP 1 179 928 A (MICHAEL HANLON) 13 February 2002 (2002-02-13) the whole document	1-17

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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